APOCALYPTIC HORSEPLAY

-CHARACTERS-

MOT

BETTER KNOWN AS DEATH, OR "THE PALE HORSE RIDER".

AFTER LEARNING THE TRUE PURPOSE OF HIS OWN EXISTENCE FROM THE MOUTH OF THE DEVIL HIMSELF, MOT SWORE OFF BRINGING ABOUT THE APOCALYPSE, AND GAVE ALL OF HIS LETHAL POWER AWAY TO HIS APATHETIC HORSE OBLIVION FOR SAFEKEEPING.

WHILE KEEPING THE TERRIBLE TRUTH OF THEIR ORIGIN A SECRET, MOT HAS ENDEAVORED TO KEEP THE OTHER THREE HORSEMEN IN CHECK AND HIDDEN AWAY, AS WELL AS INSPIRE THE MASSES WITH EXEMPLARY TALES OF HUMAN KINDNESS IN AN EFFORT TO PRESERVE HUMANITY FROM ITS OWN WORST INSTINCTS.

PESTY

ALSO KNOWN AS PESTILENCE, OR "THE WHITE HORSE RIDER".

EVER SINCE THE TRAGIC LOSS OF HIS TAMED DISEASES DURING THE ATTACK ON THEIR HOUSE BY THE COUNCIL, PESTY HAS FOUND HIMSELF STRUGGLING WITH OLD EMOTIONS FROM HIS GENOCIDAL DAYS. THANKFULLY, HIS NURTURING INSTINCTS WERE QUICKLY REKINDLED BY THE ARRIVAL OF HIS NIECE LILY, WHO HE SOON VOWED TO LOVE AND PROTECT.

BUT WHEN HIS ESTRANGED AND YET BELOVED HORSE FEVER FINALLY FOUND HER WAY BACK TO HIM, ONLY TO BE STRUCK DOWN BY YET ANOTHER AGENT OF THE COUNCIL, PESTY FELT HIS VERY LAST SHRED OF KINDNESS TURN TO BITTER ASHES ALONG WITH HER.

WARRACE

FORMERLY KNOWN AS WAR. OR "THE RED HORSE RIDER".

AFTER AN ARGUMENT OVER HIM USING HIS POWERS ON COUNCIL AGENTS DURING THE ATTACK ON THEIR HOUSE, WARRACE AND MOT'S RELATIONSHIP STARTED TO STEADILY DETERIORATE.

WARRACE BEGAN TO CHALLENGE HIS AUTHORITY AT EVERY TURN, GOING AS FAR AS TO PHYSICALLY ATTACK HIM WHEN MOT FORBADE HIM TO GO RESCUE LILY BACK IN READING. THERE, WARRACE FOUND HIMSELF BATTLING HIS ESTRANGED HORSE HATRED, WHO FORCED HIM TO REABSORB HIS ESSENCE INTO HIS LOST SWORD TO WEAKEN HIS RESOLVE. NOW SWORD IN HAND AND LED BY THE YOUNG ANTICHRIST, WARRACE IS FEELING MORE AND MORE LIKE HIS OLD DANGEROUS SELF.

MARVIN

BETTER KNOWN AS FAMINE,
OR "THE BLACK HORSE RIDER".

UPON RECEIVING A THREATENING MESSAGE FROM HIS ESTRANGED HORSE **HUNGER** INVITING HIM TO COME RESCUE **ANGELA**'S OLD FRIEND **OSCAR**, **MARVIN** REALIZED HE COULDN'T IN GOOD CONSCIENCE IGNORE THE THREAT AND ALLOW AN INNOCENT MAN TO BE TORTURED IN ORDER TO SAVE HIMSELF.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF **BETTY**, HER **GRANDMOTHER**, **PESTY** AND HIS HORSE **FEVER**, **MARVIN** SUCCEEDED IN REABSORBING THE MONSTER HE'D CREATED, ONLY TO REALIZE **HUNGER**'S WORDS STILL RANG TRUE IN HIS EARS, EVEN MORE SO WITH ALL OF HIS ACCUMULATED POWER NOW GATHERED IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND.

ANGELA

AFTER HAVING FINALLY CONFESSED HER BETRAYAL TO **MOT**, WHO CHOSE TO FORGIVE HER, **ANGELA** FOUND HERSELF UNEXPLAINABLY DRAWN TO HIM. WHILE THE TWO REMAINED CLOSE ON THE SURFACE, HER EMOTIONS EVENTUALLY BECAME TOO CONFUSING, TO THE POINT WHERE SHE CONSIDERED LEAVING THE **HORSEMEN** AND RETURNING TO **LONDON**.

ON THE MORNING OF HER DEPARTURE HOWEVER, **ANGELA** FOUND **LILY** HAD GONE BACK TO **READING**, WHERE HER EX-BOYFRIEND **OSCAR** WAS ALSO CURRENTLY HELD HOSTAGE. DETERMINED TO RIGHT HER WRONGS ONCE AND FOR ALL, SHE WAS ABOUT TO RETURN TO **READING** AS WELL WHEN **MOT** UNEXPECTEDLY FLED THE RESCUE PARTY.

ONCE ALONE, HE CONFESSED TO HER THE REAL NATURE OF THE THREAT HIM AND HIS BRETHREN FACED, AS WELL AS THE SHOCKING FACT THAT HE WAS CURRENTLY POWERLESS TO STOP IT.
SOON AFTER THAT... THE THREAT CAME FOR THEM.

Von Bellsing

ULTIMATELY UNABLE TO CONVINCE THE **COUNCIL** TO FURTHER AID HIS SEARCH FOR THE **HORSEMEN**, **VON BELLSING** AND HIS PARTNER **FATHER MATTHEW** STARTED AN ALLIANCE WITH THE **ORDER OF SAINT SEBASTIAN**'S SECOND IN COMMAND, **LADY BABEL**. WITH HER HELP, THEY TRACKED THE **HORSEMEN** DOWN IN THE MIDST OF A ZOMBIE OUTBREAK, BUT WERE ORDERED BY THE HEAD OF THE ORDER, **MASTER OZZAM**, NOT TO NOTIFY THE **COUNCIL** OF THE SITUATION, SUPPOSEDLY TO PREVENT THE ZOMBIE THREAT FROM SPREADING.

EARLY ON IN THEIR INVESTIGATION, **VON BELLSING** STARTED SUSPECTING **LADY BABEL** OF SECRETLY BEING A WITCH. WHEN HE EVENTUALLY SHARED HIS SUSPICIONS WITH **MASTER OZZAM**, THE OLD MAN TURNED ON HIS PROTEGE, BUT CONTINUED TO USE HER ABILITIES UNDER THE THREAT OF EXECUTION. **VON BELLSING** LATER TRIED TO FREE **LADY BABEL** IN ORDER TO SAVE HER LIFE. THIS RESULTED IN HIS IMMEDIATE REPUDIATION FROM THE **COUNCIL**, AS WELL AS HIS CAPTURE BY THE **HORSEMEN** SOON AFTER.

FATHER MATTHEW

IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST VON BELLSING IN HIS INVESTIGATION, FATHER MATTHEW HAS FOUND HIMSELF QUITE TORN BETWEEN HIS ALLEGIANCE TO THE COUNCIL AND HIS FAITH IN BELLSING'S ABILITIES.

ORIGINALLY RELUCTANT TO GIVE ANY CREDIT TO HIS SUSPICIONS TOWARDS LADY BABEL, MATTHEW SOON FOUND NOT ONLY THAT HIS PARTNER WAS CORRECT, BUT THAT THEIR SUPERIOR, MASTER OZZAM, HAD SOME EXTREMELY RADICAL IDEAS ON THE MATTER.

WHILE ORDERED TO DISMISS VON BELLSING AND PREVENT HIM REPORTING BACK TO THE COUNCIL, FATHER MATTHEW DECIDED TO SIDE WITH HIS DISGRACED PARTNER AND CONTACTED THE COUNCIL FOR REINFORCEMENTS. BOTH OF THEM WERE CAPTURED SOON AFTER, AND WITNESSED THE DEMISE OF MASTER OZZAM AT THE HANDS OF HIS FORMER PROTEGE.

~~LADY~~ BABEL

ORPHANED AT AN EARLY AGE AND SHUNNED BY ALL, LADY BABEL WAS TAKEN IN AS A YOUNG CHILD BY MASTER OZZAM, TO WHOM SHE OWES HER ORDINATION AS HIGH PRIESTESS OF THE ORDER OF SAINT SEBASTIAN.

DESPITE HER LOVE AND RESPECT FOR HIM, SHE KNEW OF HIS INTOLERANCE FOR MAGIC, AND ALWAYS LIVED IN FEAR OF HIM DISCOVERING HER STRANGE ABILITIES.
SADLY, HER WORST FEARS CAME TRUE WHEN HER SECRET WAS EVENTUALLY REVEALED TO HER BELOVED MENTOR WHO QUICKLY TURNED AGAINST HER.

UPON LEARNING MASTER OZZAM HAD A TERRIBLE SECRET OF HIS OWN, BABEL DECIDED HER PLACE WAS NO LONGER BY HIS SIDE, BUT RATHER BY THE SIDE OF THE CHILD WHOSE VERY PRESENCE SEEMS TO INCREASE HER MAGICAL POWERS.

DAMOCLES

FORMER SOLDIER OF THE BUNDESWEHR TURNED AGENT OF THE ORDER OF SAINT SEBASTIAN UP UNTIL HIS DEMISE, DAMOCLES WAS A GERMAN MARKSMAN WHO FOUND HIMSELF TORMENTED BY ALL THREE OF THE HORSEMEN'S AFFLICTIONS, TEMPORARILY MAKING HIM THE ONLY PERSON BESIDES ANGELA WHO WAS ABLE TO SEE ALL THE HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE AT ONCE.

LATER DISPATCHED BY LADY BABEL WITH ORDERS TO FIND AND KILL THE ANTICHRIST, HE WAS ATTACKED BY A GROUP OF BODY-SNATCHING DEMONS CALLED THE WHISPERING FRIENDS, WHO THREW HIM OFF A ROOFTOP AND CLAIMED HIS LIFE.

~~MASTER~~ OZZAM HIMMLER

DESPITE HIS HIGHLY RESPECTED POSITION AS ELDER MEMBER OF THE HOLY COUNCIL, THIS CENTURY OLD CLERIC WAS ALWAYS A BIT OF A MYSTERY FOR THE VATICAN.
UNHEARD OF UNTIL THE EARLY 1950S, HE PRESENTED HIMSELF AS AN EXPERT ON THE SUPERNATURAL, AS WELL AS A DEEPLY HOLY MAN ON A QUEST TO RID THE WORLD OF EVIL. NO ONE ON THE COUNCIL WAS EVER TRUSTED WITH THE TRUTH OF HIS PAST. AND FOR GOOD REASONS.

MASTER OZZAM, OR HEINRICH HIMMLER AS HE WAS ONCE KNOWN, WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE DAMNATION BY HUNTING THE ANTICHRIST IN THE NAME OF THE CHURCH. BUT THE BILL EVENTUALLY CAME DUE...
AS IT ALWAYS DOES.

HATRED

ALSO KNOWN AS THE RED HORSE.

AFTER HAVING BEEN CAST ASIDE BY HIS **HORSEMAN**, **HATRED** SET OUT TO COMPLETE THE PLAN HIS FORMER MASTERS HAD LAID OUT AND FULFILL THE PROPHECY. SADLY, THAT PROVED IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE **HORSEMEN'S** AWESOME POWER. **HATRED** WAS ULTIMATELY ABANDONED AND HUMILIATED, AND VOWED REVENGE ON **WAR** AND HIS BRETHREN FOR CHEATING HIM OUT OF HIS DESTINY. WITH THE HELP OF THE **DEVIL** HIMSELF, HE REUNITED THE **HORSES** AND CAME AFTER THE RETIRED **HORSEMEN**, GATHERING MASSIVE QUANTITIES OF CHAOTIC ENERGIES ALONG THE WAY USING THEIR FORMER WEAPONS.

WHEN **WARRACE** FINALLY DEFEATED HIM IN COMBAT, **HATRED** STABBED HIMSELF WITH A MYTHICAL SWORD, TURNING BACK INTO THE ESSENCE OF **WARRACE'S** FORMER SELF SO THEY COULD SOMEDAY BE REUNITED.

HUNGER

ALSO KNOWN AS
THE BLACK HORSE, OR GER

ORIGINALLY RELUCTANT TO FOLLOW HATRED ON HIS QUEST FOR REVENGE, HUNGER CHANGED DEMEANOR WHEN HE WAS GIVEN HIS FORMER RIDER'S MYTHICAL SET OF SCALES. WITH THEM, HE WAS ABLE TO INCREASE HIS POWER'S INFLUENCE DRASTICALLY AND TURN ANY NEARBY HUMANS INTO FRANTIC CANNIBALS.

WHILE GROWING STRONGER (AND BIGGER) AT THE EXPENSE OF THE READING POPULATION, HE USED ANGELA'S EX-BOYFRIEND OSCAR TO SEND A MESSAGE TO THE HORSEMEN AND LURE THEM BACK TO HIM, HOPING TO VAMPIRIZE THEM OUT OF THEIR POWERS. THANKFULLY, HE WAS FINALLY DEFEATED, TURNED BACK INTO HIS ORIGINAL ESSENCE AND REABSORBED INTO THE SCALES BY HIS FORMER MASTER.

FEVER

ALSO KNOWN AS
THE WHITE HORSE, OR FEE.

FEVER WAS NEVER ON BOARD WITH HATRED'S PLAN TO EXTRACT REVENGE ON THE HORSEMEN. THE HORSES HOWEVER WERE HER ONLY FAMILY, AND SHE AGREED TO FOLLOW THEM BACK TO ENGLAND WITH THE HOPE OF REUNITING WITH HER FORMER RIDER PESTILENCE.

SHE ALSO HELPED HUNGER CREATE A SUPERNATURAL VIRUS COMBINING ALL THREE OF THE HORSES' POWERS, WHICH TURNED READING'S INHABITANTS INTO FERAL AND CONTAGIOUS FLESH-EATING MONSTERS. SHE DID BETRAY HIM HOWEVER, AFTER REALIZING THEY HAD ALL BEEN PLAYED BY THE DEVIL TO LURE THE HORSEMEN OUT OF HIDING.
ULTIMATELY, SHE WAS STRUCK BY A HOLY RELIC AND REABSORBED INTO PESTILENCE'S MYTHICAL BOW.

LILY

BETTER KNOWN AS THE SPAWN, THE BEAST OR THE ANTICHRIST.

GENUINELY CONCERNED BY THE UNHAPPINESS OF HER NEW FAMILY, **LILY** TRANSPORTED HERSELF BACK TO **READING**, HOPING THEY WOULD COME AFTER HER AND DEFEAT THE EVIL PLAGUING THE TOWN TO REGAIN THEIR SELF-WORTH.
THERE, SHE CROSSED PATHS WITH **LADY BABEL** AND, WHILE BEFRIENDING HER, LEARNED ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE **ANTICHRIST**. HER UNCLE **WARRACE** EVENTUALLY DID COME TO HER RESCUE, BUT THEY WERE BOTH LATER ATTACKED BY HIS FORMER HORSE **HATRED**. LILY'S **WHISPERING FRIENDS** USED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH HER, ADVISING HER TO USE HER POWERS OF PERSUASION ON **WARRACE** AND CONVINCE HIM TO STOP FIGHTING HIS WARMONGERING INSTINCTS.

SHE WAS RELUCTANT TO USING HER POWERS AT FIRST, BUT SOON REALIZED THAT THE MORE SHE DID, THE HAPPIER PEOPLE AROUND HER SEEMED TO GET.

BETTY

BETTY CERTAINLY HAS BEEN THROUGH QUITE A LOT SINCE MEETING THE **HORSEMEN.**

SHE'S BEFRIENDED AND NAMED THE **ANTICHRIST.** LOOKED UPON THE FACE OF **DEATH.** DISCOVERED HER GRANDMOTHER WAS A WITCH CAPABLE OF REGAINING HER YOUTH AT WILL. AND IN AN EFFORT TO RESCUE HER FLATMATE'S EX-BOYFRIEND FROM A MONSTROUS MAN-EATING BLOB. SHE'S BEEN ATTACKED BY A ZOMBIE, SEVERAL DEMONS, AND EVEN PHASED THROUGH THE MONSTER'S INTESTINES INTO A PILE OF HUMAN BONES THANKS TO ONE OF HER GRANDMOTHER'S MAGIC POTIONS.

BOTH OF THEM ARE NOW ON THE RUN FROM HER HOMICIDAL FRIENDS, AND WHILE SHE MAY NOT HAVE ANY SPECIAL POWERS OF BIBLICAL DESTINY, BETTY'S BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH TO KNOW SHE'S NOT A QUITTER.

NANNA

UNLIKE HER CAT, **BETTY'S GRANDMOTHER** WAS DISTRUSTFUL OF **LILY** FROM THE VERY BEGINNING. ON A FEW OCCASIONS, SHE WARNED THE **HORSEMEN** AGAINST LETTING THEIR GUARD DOWN AROUND HER. WORRIED SHE MIGHT USE HER MESMERIZING POWERS TO SEDUCE THEM BACK INTO THE FORCES OF **EVIL.**

WHEN A NEW THREAT APPEARED IN THE CITY THEY HAD COLLECTIVELY FLED, SHE AGREED TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE THEM AND USED HER MAGIC TO TRANSPORT THEM BACK.

WITH HER HELP, THEY WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT **MARVIN'S HORSE** AND RECOVER **LILY**, BUT HER SUSPICIONS PROVED TRUE WHEN THE YOUNG **ANTICHRIST** USED HER INFLUENCE TO TURN **LADY BABEL** AND THREE OF THE **HORSEMEN** TO HER SIDE.

SHE WAS ABLE TO HELP HER **GRANDDAUGHTER** ESCAPE, BUT SHE KNOWS HER MAGIC MAY NO LONGER BE ENOUGH TO FIGHT WHAT IS COMING.

OSCAR

AFTER SHARING A BRIEF RELATIONSHIP WITH **ANGELA** DURING HER STUDIES, HER FORMER CLASSMATE **OSCAR** WAS LEFT CRUSHED AND BROKEN-HEARTED WHEN SHE DECIDED TO LEAVE TOWN AND PURSUE A STORY ABOUT A MYSTERIOUS NEWSPAPER.

BOTH WORRIED AND DESPERATE TO GET BACK IN TOUCH, **OSCAR** EVENTUALLY CAME TO **READING** TO FIND HER AND MAKE AMENDS. BUT SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL, SOMETHING TERRIBLE FOUND HIM INSTEAD. AFTER BEING TORTURED FOR DAYS AND FORCED TO REVEAL EVERYTHING HE KNEW ABOUT **ANGELA** AND HER NEW FRIENDS, **OSCAR** WAS MUTATED INTO AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS MONSTER AND SENT TO ATTACK THE **HORSEMEN**.

ODDLY ENOUGH, NONE OF THE BODY-SNATCHING DEMONS WERE ABLE TO TAKE OVER HIS BODY, FOR REASONS THEY THEMSELVES SEEMED TO IGNORE.

Lucy

ALSO KNOWN AS THE **DEVIL**'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT. THIS ALLURING SHE-DEVIL OPENLY ACTS AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE **FATHER OF LIES** HERE ON EARTH.

HAVING SECURED THE **FOUR HORSEMEN** AS THE **ANTICHRIST**'S NEW PROTECTORS AND CARETAKERS, SHE WENT ON TO RECRUIT THEIR FORMER MOUNTS TO SEEK OUT AND EXTERMINATE THEM, PROVIDING THEM WITH INFORMATION ON THE **HORSEMEN**'S RECENT WHEREABOUTS AND A TEAM OF BODY-SNATCHING DEMONIC ENTITIES TO HELP THEM IN THEIR MISSION. SHE HOWEVER FAILED TO INFORM THE **HORSES** OF THE **ANTICHRIST**'S EXISTENCE.

HER ACTUAL PLAN REGARDING THE **HORSEMEN** IS STILL UNKNOWN. BUT DESPITE HER CASUAL AND FRIENDLY DEMEANOR. **LUCY** IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

METATRON

FIRST CLAIMING TO BE THE **HIGHEST OF ANGELS**, AS WELL AS THE VOICE OF HEAVEN, THIS FLAMING SPIRIT HAS BEEN THE SECRET GUIDE OF **LADY BABEL** FOR DECADES.

UPON HIS LAST SUMMONING, **THE METATRON** SENT THE GHOST OF HER FORMER AGENT **DAMOCLES** TO ASSIST **BABEL** IN HER TASK WHILE REMAINING INVISIBLE TO EVERYONE ELSE BUT HER, CREATING DISTRUST BETWEEN THE SUSPECTED WITCH AND HER NEW HUMAN ALLIES.

WHEN HER BELOVED MASTER'S TRUE IDENTITY FINALLY BECAME KNOWN, THE SPIRIT REVEALED HE HAD BEEN GUIDING **BABEL** TOWARDS THE TRUTH IN AN EFFORT TO RECONCILE HER WITH HER REAL NATURE, AND SEEMED VERY PLEASED WITH HER DECISION TO PLEDGE HER POWERS TO THE FORCES OF **EVIL** AND SIDE WITH THE YOUNG **ANTICHRIST**.

WHISPERING FRIENDS

THESE BODY-SNATCHING AGENTS OF **HELL** ARE **LILY'S** OLDEST FRIENDS, BUT ONLY TAKE THEIR ORDERS FROM HER FATHER AND HIS ASSISTANT.

DESPITE HAVING NEVER REVEALED HER FATHER'S TRUE IDENTITY TO THE YOUNG **ANTICHRIST**, THEY DID EDUCATE HER ON THE **HORSEMEN** AND THEIR POWERS, AND EVEN HELPED GUIDE HER TOWARDS THEM WHEN THE FORCES OF EVIL FINALLY LOCATED THEIR NEW WHEREABOUTS.

AFTER HAVING ASSISTED THEIR FORMER **HORSES** IN AN EFFORT TO DESTROY THEM, THESE DEMONS ARE NOW BACK TO SERVING **LILY** AND HER CREW, WHOSE NEW AMBITIONS SEEM TO FINALLY ALIGN WITH HER FATHER'S ORIGINAL PLAN.

Zombies

INFECTED BY A SUPERNATURAL VIRUS COMBINING THE POWERS OF ALL THREE **HORSES**, SOME RESIDENTS OF READING HAVE TURNED INTO A HORDE OF FLESH HUNGRY MONSTERS.

WHILE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS, THESE DISEASED ABERRATIONS SERVE NO AGENDA. THEY ROAM THE CITY IN SEARCH OF FOOD, LEAVING THEIR LESS WOUNDED VICTIMS TO ENDURE A QUICK BUT EXCRUCIATING TRANSFORMATION TO JOIN THEIR RANKS.

WHETHER OR NOT THESE CREATURES RETAINED ENOUGH INTELLIGENCE TO FOLLOW ORDERS, THEIR MAKERS' ONLY CONCERN WAS FOR THEM TO WREAK ENOUGH HAVOC TO CATCH THE HORSEMEN'S ATTENTION AND LEAD THEM BACK TO **READING**.

~~HUSHER~~ OBLIVION

BETTER KNOWN AS THE PALE HORSE.

UNDER THE GUISE OF THE HUSHER A MYSTERIOUS COUNCIL AGENT PLEDGED TO THE ORDER OF SAINT SEBASTIAN. DEATH'S ONCE FAITHFUL SKELETAL PALFREY HAS BEEN IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH FOR MANY YEARS.
NONE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE HIS FACE, AND HIS ABILITIES ARE SO TERRIBLE THEY ARE VERY RARELY UTILIZED. GENERALLY ACTING ON ORDERS, HE IS CURRENTLY TASKED WITH FINDING THE ANTICHRIST AND DESTROYING HER ALLIES, WHICH HAPPENS TO INCLUDE HIS FORMER RIDER WHO FEARS HIM ABOVE ALL ELSE.

OBLIVION'S WEAKNESSES ARE STILL UNKNOWN, BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN: HE CANNOT BE KILLED.